

CSA Retention Survey Comments

What were two aspects of being a member of a CSA that you liked?
Trying new things, new recipes and cooking methods.
Organic, variety, support of local farming and small farm culture.
Sense of community and making a difference. Produce received was of better quality and freshness than that of the stores. Loved it was local!
I liked being introduced to new produce - some of which I really liked. I liked having fresh produce on hand.
Great tasting produce and interesting tomato varieties, helping out a local farm and the environment
Fresh and buying from local farmers
Loved the organic aspect! Loved having fresh produce from a local farm.
The community and the produce!
Very convenient. The farmers are great. Exciting to pick up fresh vegetables each week.
Being able to try a variety of produce, weekly visits with the owners.
Knowing where my produce was grown and supporting local farmers
Trying things we would not buy. Knowing the farmer.
I loved the fresh produce and knowing where it came from.
Knowing my produce was organic and local.
The farmers.
The fresh locally grown produce and supporting a model I strongly believe in (CSA).
Local food and local farmer.
Try different things; support the CSA.
Contact with farmers; fresh, local produce.
Variety of produce and knowing I would be getting something each week. 2) Very good for learning to try and use new veggies.
Trying new things.
Knowing where my food came from and knowing that the farmer wasn't burdened with all the risk.
I loved how fresh the produce was, absolutely delicious. I also loved trying new things that I normally wouldn't buy at the supermarket. Now I'm a kohlrabi junkie :)
I likes being able to support the farmers. Good food.
Organic produce, supporting local farmers.
Knowing the people who grow my food and excellent quality of product.
Locally grown, owners are great.
The wonderful food - variety, quality, healthy veggies. Seeing people at pick up.
Getting to know my farmers, trying new things (like kohlrabi and garlic scapes).
Beautiful tasty produce, sense of contributing to local farming.
Fresh product, and opportunity to try new things.
Organic, local produce, supporting the farm.
Community, good food
I liked the ability to try different foods, and the communications about challenges in growing it.
Fresh vegetables and ability to try new things.
Some of the volunteers were great.
Community - Support

CSA Retention Survey Comments

Fresh produce, newsletters.
Good produce. Locally grown.
Meeting growers and other participants. Local, fresh food.
I really enjoyed the CSA, the only reason we don't belong now is financial.
Interaction with the growers and volunteers at the pick-up site; they truly are great people. 2) The freshness and flavor of the produce. Nothing can compare to "home" or local grown.
Meeting and talking with the farmer.
Nice people, great food.
Got to try new things. Fresh produce.
I really like the farmer's commitment to the community and knowing that if I could not pick up my share that it would go to a food bank.
Local & organic produce.
Variety
Knowing where my food was grown, by whom and how. I liked the recommendations as to preparation
Great quality of produce. I learned so much about preparing and storing these items.
The produce was incredible and I enjoyed supporting the local community.
Meeting like-minded people. Getting to try veggies I would otherwise not have tried.
Trying produce I wouldn't normally grow or purchase. 2) Sharing the food with friends when I couldn't use it all
Supporting the farmer, and getting fresh produce each week.
Fresh produce. Great quality.
The farmer is an outstanding model and advocate for local organic produce. The CSA was ahead of the times in producing organic, local produce.
Knowing the produce was organic, local, and healthy. Supporting a local farmer. Getting recipes for preparing vegetables that I've never cooked/eaten before.
Organic produce. Excellent quality of produce.
The organic produce. Trying new things.
Local and fresh
It was fun to get a new box every week. It was always interesting produce, beautiful, fresh and delicious.
Loved the newsletter, recipes, learning how to eat with the seasons.
I loved discovering new veggies that I had never tried before. I loved knowing the farmers.
Organic food and didn't have to go to the store.
Getting different varieties of the same vegetable. Knowing which varieties were which in order to be able to later grow my own.
I loved knowing our farmer and the newsletter! I also enjoyed being introduced to veggies I had never purchased before.
The food and the people.
The farmer is a terrific person. 2) The food is ORGANICALLY grown.
Supporting the CSA. Knowing where the food came from.
Great variety of produce and grown locally.
Quality of the produce and knowing more fully what goes into the production.
The FOOD! Supporting local, quality food production.

CSA Retention Survey Comments

Fresh produce Trying new items
Introduction to new crops and local source.
Knowing where and how my food was produced. Supporting good people/farmers who are ethically minded and not an evil corporation.
I liked the farmers and the connection with the farm (I had worked there previously). I enjoyed the produce!
Fresh, organic produce. Getting to try new things.
We liked everything!
Knowing farmers and the team. Supporting local farmers.
The farm crew was great and did a great job. We tried new produce we may have never purchased.
Knowing how and who the food was produced. Not having to shop.
LOVED the people at the farm...they were amazing!
Fresh organic produce locally grown Interesting assortment of produce
Variety of produce and introduction to unfamiliar produce.
the quality of the food visiting the farm to glean at the end of the season - allowed my granddaughter to pick food she was then willing to eat.
Personnel, fresh new produce.
The fresh produce and the kind staff
Great produce and locally grown
I loved the fresh organic produce and learning to use different produce.
Chemical-free and quality
Even though the farm newsletter tells you ahead of time what's in the box, there's still an excitement factor to see what's actually in the weekly box.
Fresh, organic produce. Buying locally
Weekly delivery, variety of veggies
The sense of community and the awesome variety of fresh produce!
Getting a box of peppers, turnips, beets, cabbage, strawberries, or tomatoes -- things that I could eat with little preparation, was fun and tasty. 2. Supporting organic farming.
Amazing fresh and local produce.

What were your two least favorite aspects of CSA membership?

I "split" a share one summer which was awkward; a change in my schedule did not allow pick-up on that day.
Not enough of the foods we actually eat (lettuce, tomato, onion, garlic), too much of the things we don't eat. I don't need 15 cucumbers each week for a family of two. Cost given what we actually ate from the share was not really in our favor. We are willing to pay more for the produce we eat daily, but not so much for things we don't eat regularly (summer squash, cucumbers, kale, etc). A lot of it went to waste or was given away to coworkers.
Having too much fresh produce on hand - and having to deal with it. (Though not too much relative to what I paid for it - but too much for a one person household) Unfortunately my season was a bad season for peppers- there were few to none - that was disappointing
It was a bad year for growing, I had to plan meals around what we got that week, and it was too much of a hassle and too much time being a college student at the same time.

CSA Retention Survey Comments

Lack of variety, only one location to pick up.

Having to get to the distribution on time, although this was not a major issue. Occasionally some produce we didn't use.

Disincentive to garden and concentration of economic support with only one farm.

It takes a lot of time to plan what you are going to do with the food. I didn't have easy recipes, didn't know how to freeze the items, etc. Too many of some veggies such as eggplant, some of the bitter lettuces and beets.

The cost traveling to pick up the produce.

Variety was lacking and driving farther to get it.

When there was a shortage we shared the shortfall but when there was a bounty we could purchase extra. A share should be a share, better or worse. If the farm was attacked by locusts and wiped out I doubt we would get a refund.

There was often produce that my family and I did not like/eat and there was other produce that I would have liked to have more of.

Too much of certain things. The distribution not being set up on time/unorganized.

Lack of variety.

The lack of punctuality at pick-up time and the lack of quantity/variety of produce offered. The pick-up spot was often congested (parking was difficult) and having to wait 15-30 minutes for them to arrive and get set up was very frustrating.

I didn't really have least favorite aspects.

Getting to pick up; day of week of pick up.

Little flexibility about day of pickup.

Being tied to same time while not horribly inconvenient, felt constrained. Not so bad when I was working and did it on the way home, but when not working felt like a chore to go pick up. 2) Whether right or wrong, felt produce at farm pick up site was held back in favor of sending to the distant sites pick up

Not getting produce that I wanted, or too little of certain things.

Feeling pressure to have to use everything and receiving things that I wouldn't grow myself even with unlimited garden space.

Waste. No time to pick up and prepare.

Occasionally we would be bombarded with certain items. I live alone, and one week I got 12 HUGE cucumbers. I ended up giving several of them away. Also, some weeks I was just too busy to cook up all of the produce I got and some went to waste.

Unable to use much of the produce quickly enough. Expensive.

Not many options of the food, and LOTS of food we don't eat - felt like we wasted money on our LARGE Share.

Inconvenient pick up location/time and occasional waste of product (family didn't like some items).

Not the foods we liked. Not enough quantity at times of one thing to actually prepare.

Feeling badly that I wasn't helping at the farm. Watching the trials and tribulations of farming.

No flexibility on items, short season (I know that since then they've had season extenders; we would have participated had we stayed in state!).

Forgetting to pick up share; not enough peas, beans, corn, tomatoes, melons - the more basic stuff (greens, potatoes, onions, cabbage, squash) was wonderful quality but a bit boring

CSA Retention Survey Comments

A lot of kale - something I unfortunately discovered is not to my personal taste, and difficulty getting to the pick-up site with my work schedule

Expensive and inconvenient pick-up time for me. Our financial situation changed and we couldn't afford it this year.

Wasted greens,

The volume of items we liked was very low and the items we didn't like was high, and it was expensive enough that we made ourselves eat what we didn't like, knowing that if we had saved the money we could have picked out what we wanted at the grocery store.

I didn't like that I purchased a spring share and the growing season was late so I got very little for my money. Should have been offered to extend my shares to a later date when things when things started producing.

We don't get a holiday off, so neither do you attitude. there was entirely too much of the product that I liked least (ie. kale - a never-ending cascade of different types of kale, kale, kale, kale and more kale) and not enough of what I expected to get (asparagus, tomatoes, corn, kohlrabi . . .)

Same produce - (can only eat so much Kale)

Difficult to pick up some weeks due to time constraints

1.tough to get to the CSA location when I split a share in another city. 2. Sometimes the CSA was all I could afford for vegetables each week, so if it was a lean week, we had fewer veggies to eat.

Too much of some things, not enough of others No control over what I got

Owner not knowing us. Lack of newsletter

Standing in the heat and the rain. It was nice when it was with the farmer's market in the parking garage.

Not being able to select which items I'd receive.

There wasn't enough variety...lots and lots of garlic scapes and kale. We never got some really common veggies--green beans and peas.

The variety in the share for the two years I was a member was somewhat lacking. Lots of potatoes, onions, kale, and peppers, but not a lot of anything else. Would have loved some green peas, beans, etc. The pick-up time of a Friday afternoon was very restrictive. If I were going out of town for the weekend I had to make other arrangements etc. I split my share but there were times neither of us could make it.

Unavailability of half shares for smaller households, variety was not great

Wasting excess produce

Rude people who distributed the food and poor variety

The pickup day/time/location was inconvenient for me.

There was not quite as much variety as I had expected and I was hoping for more consistent Communication on what we were getting each week and recipes to try with it.

Felt guilty not finishing all our veggies. Overall cost

1-Having my family be a pain in the rear about trying new things!! 2-when I didn't get it all used throwing some of it away broke my heart!

Price and crazy pickup--you had to be there right away or things were picked over

CSA Retention Survey Comments

Lack of variety, seeming lack of concern for customers (seemed very self-centered with whiny emails, frequently late, not providing updates on what was to be delivered that week, overall very poor value - I could have purchased what I got at local farmers markets for about 1/2 of what I paid the farmer and not been made to wait in a parking lot for them to show up or received annoying emails whining/complaining about all sorts of off topic things).

Too little of certain products and too much of others.

The quality seemed to decrease as membership increased.

Having to clean the whole box of vegetables asap upon receiving them. Too much lettuce to eat within a week's time early in the season which led to waste.

Too much of one type of produce due to large crop that year not enough of one type of produce due to small crop that year

Sometimes we would get so little of an item it wasn't worth preparing on its own, sometimes the boxes were skimpy

Not enough of the favorites like tomatoes and too much of odd veggies that aren't easy to use on a daily basis.

Kohlrabi and price :-0

I really don't know. I just wanted to try committing to the Farmer's Market this summer.

Driving to get the food and the low volume of items once I got there

Driving to the area. Large amounts of garlic scrapes.

Inflexibility...box was there even if we were out of town. Lack of control over what we were eating...it was all good, just challenging to create meals.

None

Not as convenient for pick up than another CSA

1--Too much travel; had difficult time arranging for dispersal of boxes when we were out of state. 2-- Occasionally forgot to pick up the boxes.

Too much that we don't like. Driving across town for the pickup.

Quantity of produce and quality

Pickup time was the sole reason for our decision to leave. We have 2 small boys and the pickup time is right at their dinner time followed by transition to bed time. It was just too much of a hassle.

Planning around it ... I am in a busy stage of life. Getting the produce and and trying to use it all. Which I know I SHOULD, but it just wasn't happening.

Some seasons because of weather, the amounts were less. Summer vacations

Poor quality and overwhelming quantity of produce I really did not like (okra and kale)

Forgetting to pick up the box because I would often leave work before the pick-up time was ready. Getting a lot of produce that was fun to try, but not really enjoyed by my family later on (beets, turnips, radishes)

I didn't like the Friday pick up time, as we often traveled on weekends in the summer (this wasn't what drew me away from this CSA, though).

Not knowing how to prepare everything or not liking what I received. When you can't use everything you get, you feel like you aren't getting good value for your money. forgetting to pick up my produce

Nothing! The farmer especially was great!

Getting a puny share, seeing other boxes with a different quality vegetable in it.

CSA Retention Survey Comments

In troublesome weather years I didn't get my money's worth. I wish I could have gotten more of what my family really liked
The day and times were not always convenient. Cleaning the produce.
Vegetables that we didn't eat...and driving to the farm. We had fun there, but it was a distance every week.
Receiving overgrown produce Became too expensive for what I received
When out of town, guilt over inability to use produce at its peak.
It seemed expensive for the amount of produce, especially the last two years. It was difficult for me to do my pickups from the farm because of my work schedule at the time.
None.
Not getting veggies that my kids would eat, not enough fruit
Schedule didn't allow for full usage of food.
Cost for quantity. I think they over sold the shares.
Pick up and food required processing
Disappointment when the quality and quantity of the veggies in the box are not what you expected.
Having no choice in what we got inconsistent amounts (I realize weather is a factor)
Half-share weekly not available unless you paired with someone. Cost seemed to become greater than perceived value received.
I would forget to order a la carte items and didn't use up my credit in a timely fashion. Just me being busy, I think.
Little produce for price. Coordinating pick up weekly.

What would bring you back to the CSA as a customer?

No longer living on an acreage.
A small share option and day that fit my schedule (not a criticism - just my situation).
Getting a share of the things we actually eat daily; lettuce, tomato, onion, garlic each week. Greenhouse so it is more regular and less affected by the elements?
Perhaps something like a flexible ala carte type option - But isn't that what I get with the Farmer's Markets?
I probably won't come back until I'm no longer a student. I wish we could purchase tomatoes and such now and then without having to commit and pay for the CSA.
Variety of foods and the options listed above: option to pick and choose, half shares every other week, etc.
If I couldn't do my own garden any longer I would gladly return to being a CSA member.
Oh, we'll be back eventually...
Some of the planning I would need to do would have to be taken out of it. I'd need a handout each week with the vegetables in the share. Several recipes in which I could use the items in and if I couldn't use them would be it possible to freeze them for future use. I would be excited to get the items and then frustrated with myself because I didn't make the time to research recipes or ways to prepare or preserve the food.
Lower cost and less travel time maybe?
Inability to purchase at market or grow my own.
Being able to select my produce and being able to have more of certain items.

CSA Retention Survey Comments

Having one closer or a closer distribution.

I am considering trying again next year. I think I probably had unreasonable expectations based on my previous CSA membership.

We couldn't eat all we got and the day of the week made it difficult to have time to do things with the produce.

If we could take weeks off of membership when we travel.

Probably nothing.

Nothing

Discovering that I can't grow things myself.

I would LOVE to be a CSA member with the farm again if I ever move back to the area, and because of my involvement with the CSA, I am looking to join another CSA in my new home!

Am thinking of it.

More foods we already eat - cheaper costs.

A more convenient location for pick up and/or a la carte selection.

More foods we like.

I plan on being back next year unless I am out of town for most of the summer.

Moving back to Iowa. As soon as we relocated to New York, we joined another CSA, in no small part due to the good experiences we had with the farm.

More variety, better quantity of popular items, less gloom ... More reinforcement for how the upfront, risk-sharing payments of the members are helping local agriculture...

Closer pick up site with more convenient time. A weekend afternoon would be great.

Flexible pay options / closer pick-up / home delivery would be great.

More time to do it right.

Nothing. It just wasn't for us.

Assurance that if growing season is late, there will be an extension.

I am beginning to learn how to better deal with some of the greens.

The ability to purchase a smaller, more manageable amount of produce.

Nothing at this point. Very happy with new CSA. Longer spread of time for pickup. Vegetables good variety and very clean.

Might try again in the future.

I am in a different CSA.

When I can afford to belong again I will join.

We are doing farmers' markets on the weekend as that allows us to buy a small portion and purchase what we can prep for the next week. I've tried to enlist neighbors to split a share, but so many people do not have a deep appreciation of local food need to sustain community and preparation skills. I'm a typical example after one generation of being away from my family's farming heritage: so much of the skills and appreciation to prepare fresh food from soil to table have been lost.

I believe I will continue to use the Iowa Valley Food Co-op option that allows me to support more than one farmer and select what I purchase.

I would prefer a better variety of smaller amounts of produce rather than larger amounts of the same thing all the time, but know this is difficult in Iowa and depends on weather etc.

Make half shares available & provide more recipes for hard to use ingredients.

Change in financial situation.

CSA Retention Survey Comments

A different person's home that distributed the food and a slightly better variety.
The current system is a great value for families, but for just my husband and I, it's too expensive compared to how much we can actually use.
Buying a smaller share.
Smaller share options
Not sure. Sorry!
Lowering the price.
I would be willing to try a different CSA - would like greater variety of veggies, more professional/courteous service, overall better value. I would also prefer to pick up produce toward the end of the week or weekend - the farmer did Monday pick up which was very inconvenient, and that combined with constant lateness just does not work for us.
Flexible purchasing perhaps
More time to cook
Not an option at this time.
Ability to specify what I wanted in the box and how much I wanted (ie: lettuces)
I had a change in relationship status so sadly do not cook as much right now. Hopefully that will change in the future, but I would not be using the produce as I should.
Not sure - we needed to take a break.
Home delivery and more variety
I wish I was able to participate in more of the community days like pulling garlic. Joined CSA to have fresh veggies during a year I was in flux with housing and own garden.
Change in my financial situation - less of a \$ commitment
Support and prayers.
Lower cost for the amount I have received, Home delivery would be great, food to be washed...oftentimes it was dirty and if in my house I would get flies.
Moving back to the area.
Shopping at the farmers markets seems to suit our needs better.
Nothing at this point because, since my husband's death in January, 2012, I'm gone much of the summer and can shop at the Iowa Food Coop or at Tallgrass Grocery when I'm in town.
Pick up convenience Ability to modify order with special requests
Would happily return if we could purchase boxes only for those weeks we knew we'd be in Des Moines.
Ability to pick and choose, and not have to pay for weeks we're gone.
More a la cart items
When the kid's schedule is a bit more flexible we will consider rejoining.
More time in my life. I hope to be back again soon.
Staying around in the area during the season
Home delivery and better quality of known crops.
I have expanded my garden this year and it is more fun, a lot cheaper, I get what I want, and I have more flexibility on when I harvest so I waste less - it would be pretty hard for me to go back to a CSA now. It might be nice to have an online a la carte menu for weekly delivery and then I just carry a balance on the account. That way I can supplement with items that I don't grow in my garden (for example, I wouldn't mind supplementing with berries and asparagus a couple times a year and picking it up at the pick up site)

CSA Retention Survey Comments

If my current CSA farm stopped having shares.

***being able to purchase ala carte**, knowing how to prepare everything, being able to use everything I get so I feel like I'm getting a good value.

Anything!! Variety offered, good value, proximity to home, especially deliver to home!!

I don't think the model fits my family, we eat a lot more veggies than average and one box didn't meet our needs and we can't afford two.

I'm not sure...I know that part of CSA is the risk of the weather. I have trouble paying that much money, Not knowing whether or not I'm going to get my money's worth. We watch our money very closely.

Resolution of my digestive problems.

Home delivery would be amazing!

Nice produce at reasonable price

If I didn't have a home garden.

Unable to do at this time

A share with Quantity equal to price and variety.

Foods I could pick up nearby and items that did not require processing (berries, carrots, more common items)

Not sure.

Flexibility in variety and/or quantity, having it be less expensive

Having half-share weekly delivery available.

Appreciation for the awesome produce and eggs. Recommending the CSA and Saturday morning market to others.

More variety, maybe a share every other week.

Not sure but would be more likely if knew you got more produce for price. First year was Amazing. Last two were super small in box so felt making weekly drive wasn't worth it.

What other comments do you have?

The food was sooo good, the CSA folks very helpful.

Love the eggs and meats offered. Wish there was a way to have more of the produce we regularly eat each week and we would be back.

I was happy, but the p/u at my new CSA is much better for me. It is close, I already buy my milk there, and I can come anytime during the day.

I'm just too lazy - and I split a share with a couple of others who I could find that wanted to go in at that time - and I wound up with a lot of produce sometimes (most of which I liked, some not so much) that I had to deal with. And I don't like throwing stuff away because I'm not using it.

I thought it was a great value for the amount of food. I didn't use the food I got very efficiently. I determined that i could go to the farmers market on a weekly basis and purchase what I needed and use all of it without frustration of extra items that I felt pressured to use.

We LOVED the produce and it did force us to eat healthier, but we ended up spending way more on food than what our budget could handle.

We found we still had to purchase at market certain items while other food went bad, it just wasn't a good match for us.

CSA Retention Survey Comments

I had previously belonged to another CSA and that membership was phenomenal. On-farm pickup, a huge variety of produce, extended season purchase options, fabulous value for the amount of produce we received each week. The farmer ran an exemplary CSA, in my opinion, and one that others would do well to emulate!

My job and financial situation changed due to the economic downturn and that's why I had to discontinue the CSA. I started my own garden as a way to make ends meet. That has gone so well and has expanded and I'm quite happy with that now. It's opened doors to a new world for me. My CSA experience was good but I just didn't have the funds to continue. Changing circumstances resulted in my family learning gardening skills so it was a good thing in many ways. We now love gardening!

Very supportive of the CSA idea it was just difficult for us to participate

I was one of the inaugural members of the farm and enjoyed it very much. I just decided to do the gardening myself instead; just to see if I could.

I appreciate the work that the farmers have put into this. I would like to support them next year

The farmers run an incredible organization and produce an excellent product. I really hated to leave their CSA because I want to support what they do.

Thanks for all your work.

We are now part of the CSA program with a farm in another state. They offer several options (including flexibility on what you pick up for the week, a bonus item for wearing their t-shirt to the market, and off-season shares) that I believe are extremely compelling, but I imagine harder to pull off in a smaller area. Also, we've befriended other farmers at the market, and one farm (Quincy Farm) has just started up a program that allows for interns to participate in farming activities.

I wonder if the farm suffers from being too big, since they have to have enough to divide "equally" among so many members, having a poor crop of something tends to mean that everyone gets none because it gets crazy to overplant enough? And is it possible that the farm was hit harder by crop failures because they had to plant so much to serve everyone that they had to do too many less than ideal practices? Also, I felt like I had to spend the same amount of time and money at the grocery store/market because so much of the stuff that was available was lower cost at the store and not really stuff that I "needed" but more stuff I could use for "fill" (cabbage, onions, squash ...), still had to buy tomatoes, sweet corn, new potatoes, green beans, cucumbers, melons ... because there usually either wasn't any or not enough for more than one meal.

The farm is great and I regret not being a member this year - things just didn't work out for us.

The CSA was wonderful. The people involved were terrific, and we would highly recommend it to anyone! For us, it was just something we tried that didn't work out for our family. By the time we made ourselves eat all of the produce (especially what we didn't like), the kids didn't like fresh vegetables anymore. We just weren't willing to risk their tastes changing from loving them to hating them.

This was a great opportunity for our children. If I could afford to start farming, I would consider it just for the values and knowledge it would instill into my children. Given the poor quality of school food locally, it would be nice to see local foods brought into the schools. It is tragic that Iowa is a net importer of food for human consumption.

Thank you for listening!

The farm and helpers were always so friendly!!!!

CSA Retention Survey Comments

I moved to another CSA that offers half shares because I had too much waste with a full share
I realize that consumers get what crops flourish, but a lot of the vegetables were the same week after week and some were rotted when we got them. I was under the impression we'd have more variety. The people that distributed the food were often hostile. Why offer to host the pick up if it offends you so?
I really enjoyed my CSA...I just decided to take a summer off. I would go back to for sure!
I really love the idea and reality of the CSA, but missed visiting the farmers market. I would love to have other share options.
I am trying to grow a larger garden this year and supplement by buying a few items at the farmer's market. I would view my non-renewal as a positive thing because I am growing a LOT more of my own produce and I love it! :)
I would live to see more 'normal' produce, like celery, carrots, etc vs unusual things like nettles or anise hyssop.
I wish more options were available in our area - I think there is one by near that we may try next year that we've heard good things about, but last year was such a waste of time and money that we needed a year off. Part of the reason we joined the CSA was to feel like we were doing something positive for local farmers, and the farmer has a very negative attitude (at least in emails) and an apparent disregard for customers - I think the farmer could use a little competition in the area.
My overall experience with the CSA was good however I am not in town much during the summer so it would be difficult to rejoin
CSA's are the face of small farms, protecting and respecting the land, and encouraging healthy eating.
I know this is silly and my own fear, but I really don't like finding random worms while cleaning my produce. It's a personal quirk I know!
LOVED belonging to a CSA—both of them were wonderful farmers & the produce was excellent. I recommend it to people all of the time!
Very positive experience. I have 2 acres of my own so can grow pretty much what I want. Canning classes would be great!
I loved the farm!
I like that the farmer was at the nearby Farmer's Market.
None
I probably wouldn't belong to a CSA if I could have a full size garden. Right now I can only grow things on a patio.
Otherwise pleased with CSA.
We miss the great food and our occasional interactions with the farmer.
The main reason I didn't rejoin was to try a different CSA to compare
I hope my survey reflects that I was generally happy with my CSA. Ideally it would fit perfectly in my life -- good quality food is work! It is worth it to me, but the rest of my family doesn't yet see the value. Trying to get there!

CSA Retention Survey Comments

I love the CSA model and loved getting to know the farmers. I felt like they taught me how to eat seasonally and sparked my interest for gardening so in a sense I feel as though I have "graduated" from the CSA to a homesteading now, so in my mind it never was a matter of "leaving" but more so, moving onto the next level. The downsides to leaving so far have been I am getting less variety of produce and not trying as many new things as I did when I was a member.

Thanks!

Overall, I like the concept of the CSA but in its current form, it just didn't work for my family.

I really appreciate the work these farmers do and don't want my negative comments to batter them, I am especially sure this year is a bad year to have negative feedback!

I would have liked to have more fruit options. The farm does a great job. I just have a hard time paying for full boxes and because of drought or flood, I only get half a box.

I loved being a member of the farm and would still be a member if it were not for my digestive problems.